# MIRROR'S EDGE™

#6
JUN 09

WILDSTORM

R. PRATCHETT • M. SMITH

DIRECT SALES

7 61941 27779 0 00611

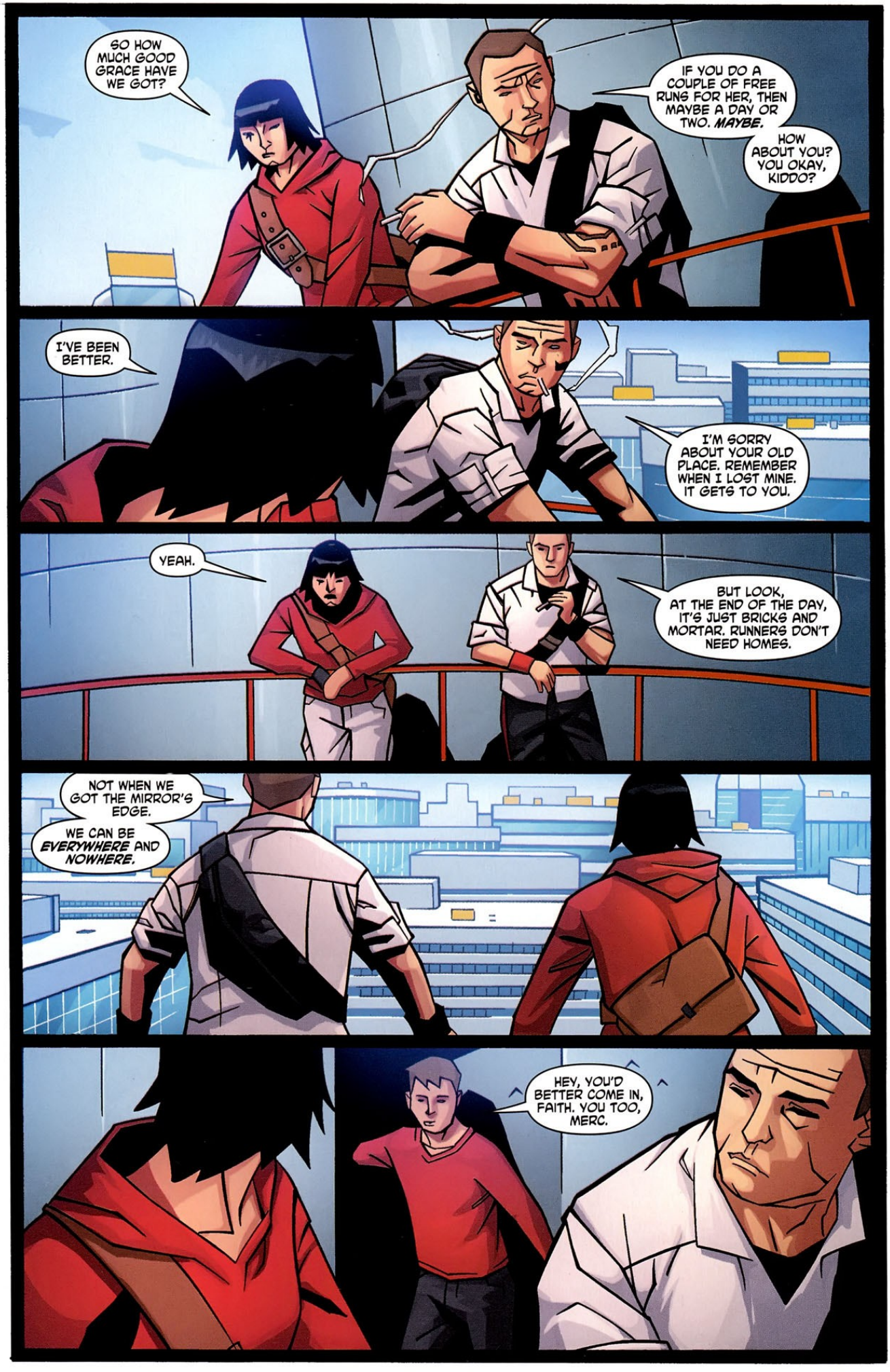
$3.99US WILDSTORM.COM

THEY SAY YOUR LIFE FLASHES BEFORE YOUR EYES RIGHT BEFORE YOU DIE.
MAYBE SO.
BUT I DON'T RECOGNIZE IT ANY MORE.
AND I DON'T WANT TO. TOO MUCH WHITE NOISE.
NOT ENOUGH...

...SIGNAL.

24 HOURS EARLIER.
I'M SORRY
THE TWO WORDS THAT CHANGED MY LIFE.
EVEN THOUGH MY FATHER FOUGHT THE CITIZENSHIP PROGRAM THROUGH LIBERTAS...
...I FOUND OUT THAT MY MOTHER HAD BEEN SECRETLY TRYING TO KEEP THE FAMILY FROM DEBT, BY TAKING ON WORK FOR SILVINE SECURITY SYSTEMS.
THE SECURITY AND SURVEILLANCE COMPANY THAT WENT ON TO PROVIDE THE CITY WITH ITS EYES AND EARS.
EVERYTHING LIBERTAS AND MY FATHER STOOD AGAINST.
THE REASON WHY RUNNERS EXIST.
AND THEN I WATCHED MY PAST, THE HOUSE I GREW UP IN, BURN BEFORE MY EYES.
STATES
THE CITY HAD CLAIMED IT.

IT'S BEEN A HELL OF A WEEK.
HHNNNNGGG!
NEED SOME HELP THERE, MERC?
I'M FINE, I'M FINE. NOW I REMEMBER WHY WE PLAY CARDS AT MY PLACE.
DRAKE CALL YOU?
SURE DID. NO IDEA WHY.
HOW'S DAD?
HE'S WITH LEAF IN ONE OF HER HIDEOUTS.
SHE AIN'T TOO HAPPY ABOUT HARBORING HIM. LEAST, ONCE SHE HEARD WHAT HAPPENED AT HOAGY'S.


SO HOW MUCH GOOD GRACE HAVE WE GOT?
IF YOU DO A COUPLE OF FREE RUNS FOR HER, THEN MAYBE A DAY OR TWO. MAYBE.
HOW ABOUT YOU? YOU OKAY, KIDDO?
I'VE BEEN BETTER.
I'M SORRY ABOUT YOUR OLD PLACE. REMEMBER WHEN I LOST MINE. IT GETS TO YOU.
YEAH.
BUT LOOK, AT THE END OF THE DAY, IT'S JUST BRICKS AND MORTAR. RUNNERS DON'T NEED HOMES.
NOT WHEN WE GOT THE MIRROR'S EDGE.
WE CAN BE EVERYWHERE AND NOWHERE.
HEY, YOU'D BETTER COME IN, FAITH. YOU TOO, MERC.

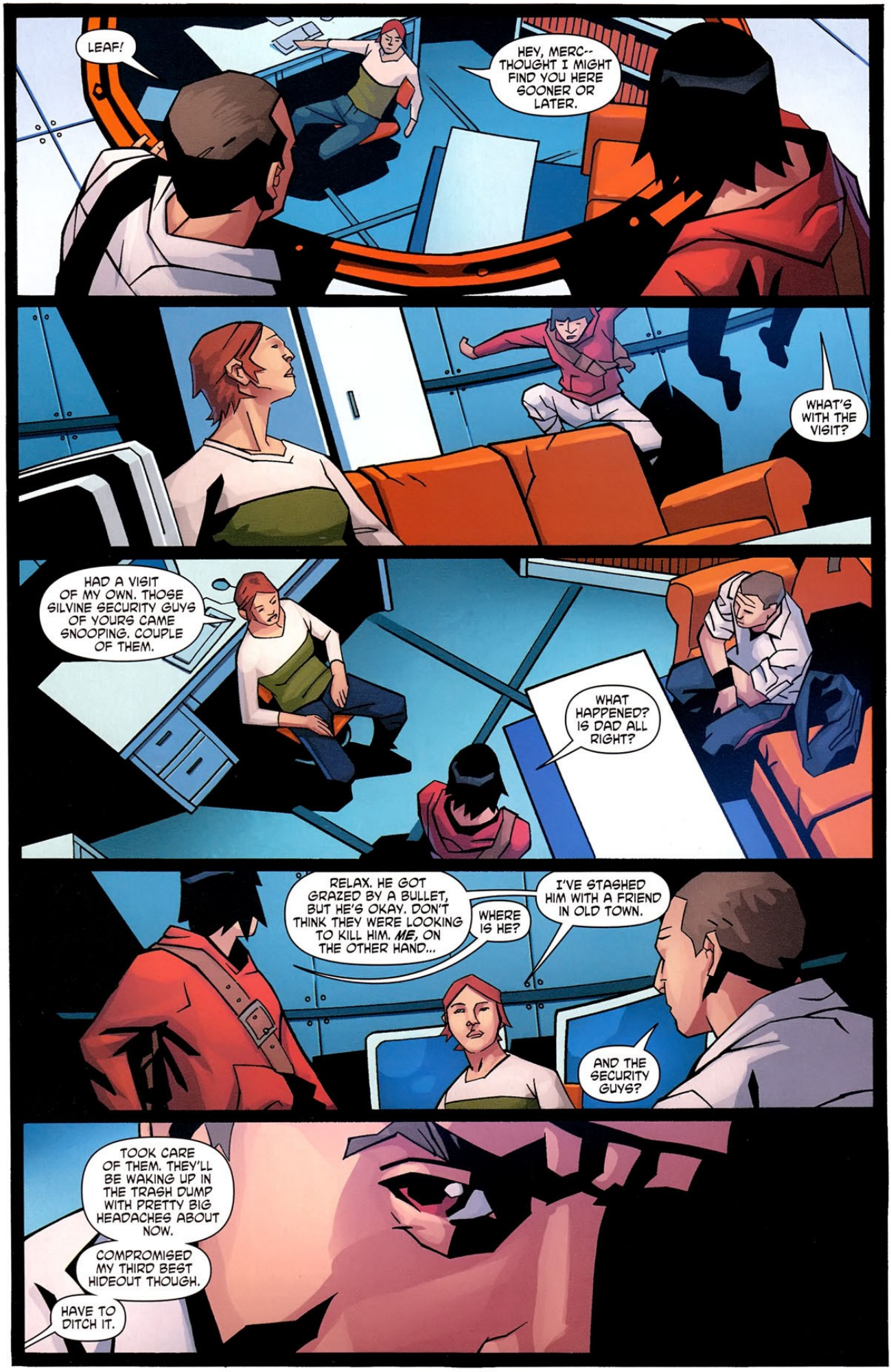
WELL, IT CERTAINLY CLEARS UP A FEW QUESTIONS ABOUT WHAT THE BOARD WAS GOING TO BE USED FOR.
SO SPILL, DRAKE.
SO I'VE HAD A CHANCE TO LOOK AT WHAT WAS IN THAT ENVELOPE. YOU SAY IT CAME FROM THE SAME PERSON WHO MADE THE CIRCUIT BOARD?
YEAH. AT LEAST, I'M PRETTY SURE IT DID.
YOU KNOW MUCH ABOUT THE CAMERAS IN THIS CITY, FAITH?
JUST TO AVOID THEM.
SO THE NOTES ARE FOR, WHAT? A *SECURITY CAM?*
NOT *A* SECURITY CAMERA-- *THE* SECURITY CAMERA.
*OH GOD, MOM...*
IT'S LIKE *NOTHING* OPERATING IN THE CITY AT THE MOMENT. HELL, IT'S LIKE NOTHING I'VE EVER EVEN *SEEN* BEFORE.
IT'S SOME KIND OF SUPER-SMART CAMERA. ADVANCED TRACKING, CAM-TO-CAM COMMUNICATION AND COORDINATION.

THIS IS *INCREDIBLE.* MAN, A YEAR OF NORMAL RECON COULDN'T GET US THIS KIND OF INFORMATION. YOUR MOM WAS INTO SOME SERIOUS STUFF, FAITH.
YOUR *MOM?*
THANKS FOR THAT, MERC.
OH. SORRY, FAITH.
CAN I MEET HER?
SHE'S DEAD.
FAITH... I'M SO SORRY.
IT'S OKAY. IT WAS A FEW YEARS BACK.
IF IT'S ANY COMFORT, THIS STUFF-- HER NOTES AND THE BOARD YOU'VE GOT US-- THEY'RE GOING TO BE SO IMPORTANT TO THE RUNNERS.
I NEED TO SEE THE BOARD AGAIN. PIECE IT ALL TOGETHER.
NO.
FAITH!
I HAVEN'T GIVEN THESE TO YOU, DRAKE, OR TO THE RUNNERS. SHE LEFT THEM TO *ME.* AND RIGHT NOW SOMEONE'S TRYING TO KILL MY FATHER FOR THEM.
SO EXCUSE ME IF I DON'T JUST HAND THEM OVER.

I NEED AIR.
WHAT'S WITH HER?
RELAX, MAN. I'LL HANDLE THIS.

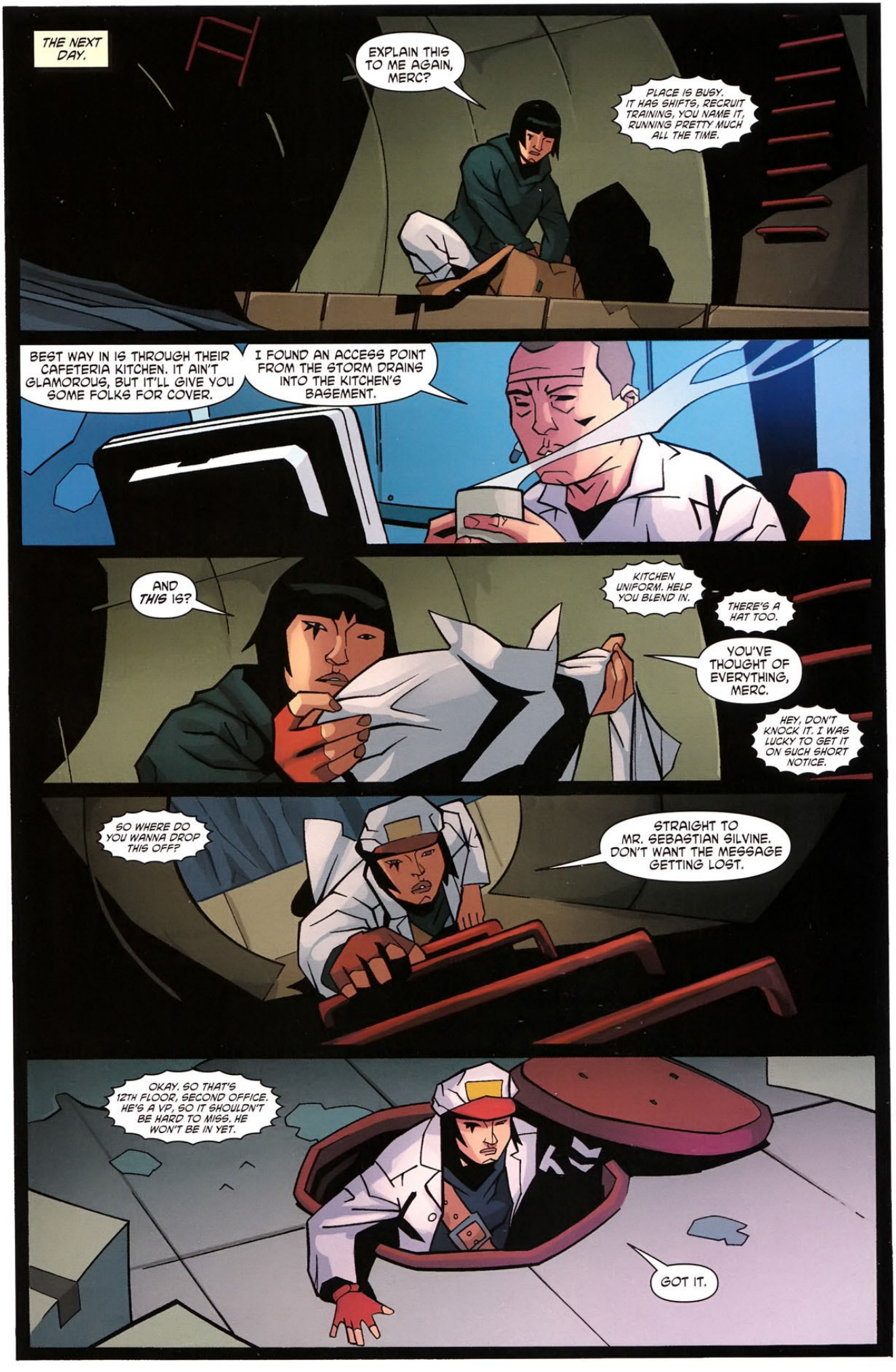
YOU COULDN'T HAVE BEEN WORKING ON A SUPER TOASTER, COULD YOU, MOM?
INSTEAD OF SOMETHING EVERYONE WANTS TO GET THEIR HANDS ON?
IS THAT WHAT GOT YOU KILLED?
HAD ENOUGH AIR YET?
HOW--?

YOU MIGHT HAVE THE EDGE ON SPEED, KIDDO. BUT I COULD RUN THESE ROOFTOPS WITH MY EYES CLOSED.
I KNOW YOUR ROUTES.
AND I KNOW ALL THE SHORTCUTS.
I'M SORRY ABOUT BACK THERE. IS DRAKE MAD?
MORE CONFUSED, I THINK.
COME ON-- LET'S GET BACK TO MY PLACE.
SOMEONE'S IN THERE.


LEAF!
HEY, MERC-- THOUGHT I MIGHT FIND YOU HERE SOONER OR LATER.
WHAT'S WITH THE VISIT?
HAD A VISIT OF MY OWN. THOSE SILVINE SECURITY GUYS OF YOURS CAME SNOOPING. COUPLE OF THEM.
WHAT HAPPENED? IS DAD ALL RIGHT?
RELAX. HE GOT GRAZED BY A BULLET, BUT HE'S OKAY. DON'T THINK THEY WERE LOOKING TO KILL HIM. ME, ON THE OTHER HAND...
WHERE IS HE?
I'VE STASHED HIM WITH A FRIEND IN OLD TOWN.
AND THE SECURITY GUYS?
TOOK CARE OF THEM. THEY'LL BE WAKING UP IN THE TRASH DUMP WITH PRETTY BIG HEADACHES ABOUT NOW.
COMPROMISED MY THIRD BEST HIDEOUT THOUGH.
HAVE TO DITCH IT.

I'M SORRY, LEAF.
AS LONG AS I'VE GOT THE CIRCUIT BOARD AND THE NOTES, THEY'RE GOING TO KEEP COMING AFTER HIM.
AND US.
I CAN'T KEEP IT.
I KNOW.
I'VE GOT TO GIVE IT TO SILVINE.
DO YOU THINK DRAKE WILL UNDERSTAND?
WELL, THE STUFF IS USEFUL, SURE. BUT IF WE KEEP SILVINE ON OUR TAIL AND THEY FIND OUT TOO MUCH ABOUT US...
THEN IT COULD BRING DOWN THE RUNNERS.
GUESS I'D BETTER GO BACK TO DRAKE'S. GET THE NOTES.

I FIGURED YOU WERE FREAKED AND MIGHT WANT THEM BACK.
DRAKE'S MADE SOME COPIES AND HE'S STILL GOT HIS TESTS FROM THE BOARD.
IT'S NOT THE WHOLE PICTURE, BUT IT AIN'T ALL DOOM AND GLOOM.
WELL, I GUESS MR. SILVINE'S PAD IS GOING TO BE WELL GUARDED SINCE MY LITTLE VISIT.
WHAT ABOUT THE OFFICES?
SILVINE SECURITY SYSTEMS? YOU WANT TO BREAK INTO A SECURITY FIRM?
LAST THING THEY'D EXPECT.
THANK YOU.
SO. WHAT'S THE PLAN?
IF YOU INSIST ON GOING INTO THE LION'S DEN, TAKE THIS.
WHAT IS IT?
DRAKE'S LATEST PROTOTYPE.
IT'S SUPPOSED TO SEND OUT SIGNALS THAT INTERFERE WITH SECURITY CAMS. HELP KEEP YOU LESS VISIBLE. HAVEN'T HAD A CHANCE TO TEST IT IN THE FIELD YET.
THANKS.
MERC, I NEED YOU TO RUSTLE UP SOME INFO ON SILVINE SECURITY SYSTEMS. LAYOUT, SHIFTS, ACCESS POINTS. ANYTHING YOU CAN GET.
SURE. YOU GET SOME REST. YOU'RE GONNA NEED IT.


THE NEXT DAY.
EXPLAIN THIS TO ME AGAIN, MERC?
PLACE IS BUSY. IT HAS SHIFTS, RECRUIT TRAINING, YOU NAME IT, RUNNING PRETTY MUCH ALL THE TIME.
BEST WAY IN IS THROUGH THEIR CAFETERIA KITCHEN. IT AIN'T GLAMOROUS, BUT IT'LL GIVE YOU SOME FOLKS FOR COVER.
I FOUND AN ACCESS POINT FROM THE STORM DRAINS INTO THE KITCHEN'S BASEMENT.
AND *THIS* IS?
KITCHEN UNIFORM. HELP YOU BLEND IN.
THERE'S A HAT TOO.
YOU'VE THOUGHT OF EVERYTHING, MERC.
HEY, DON'T KNOCK IT. I WAS LUCKY TO GET IT ON SUCH SHORT NOTICE.
SO WHERE DO YOU WANNA DROP THIS OFF?
STRAIGHT TO MR. SEBASTIAN SILVINE. DON'T WANT THE MESSAGE GETTING LOST.
OKAY. SO THAT'S 12TH FLOOR, SECOND OFFICE. HE'S A VP, SO IT SHOULDN'T BE HARD TO MISS. HE WON'T BE IN YET.
GOT IT.

JUST TRY AND ACT LIKE YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE THERE.
NOT COMING EASY, MERC.
ARE YOU NEW?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
I WAS JUST PUTTING SOME BOXES DOWN IN STORAGE.
GOT A CALL TO TAKE SOME WATER UP TO 12.
Hmmm... OKAY, MOVE IT THEN!
SHOULD BE A STAFF ELEVATOR IN THERE. HEAD FOR THAT.
AND HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU PEOPLE? HAIRNET!

OKAY, SECOND OFFICE, REMEMBER.
IS THERE A CAMERA IN IT?
LOOKS LIKE IT.
THEN IT'S TIME TO GIVE DRAKE'S NEW TOY A GO.
S. Silvine Vice President.
GET IN. DROP THE STUFF. GET OUT.
HEY!
YOU HAVE BUILDING CLEARANCE?
YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO BE IN HERE, ARE YOU?

SEE YOU WENT FOR THE DIPLOMATIC OPTION.
I'M SORRY
TALKING WASN'T GOING TO GET ME OUT OF THERE.
UNAUTHORIZED PERSONNEL IN THE BUILDING--
--STAY RIGHT WHERE YOU ARE AND WAIT FOR A SECURITY OFFICER.
DAMN! GET ME OUT OF HERE, MERC.
THERE'S AN ACCESS PANEL IN THE CEILING.
SEE IF YOU CAN CLIMB UP TO THE AIR VENT. IT LINKS INTO THE MAIN ELEVATOR SHAFT. MIGHT BE ABLE TO GET YOU OUT FROM THERE.

THERE SHE IS!
STOP OR WE OPEN FIRE!
AGGGHHH!

THANKS.
FAITH...
WHEN YOU LET GO... YOU KNEW THE ELEVATOR WAS COMING UP BELOW YOU, RIGHT?
SURE.

WENT RIGHT PAST THEM. SHOULD HAVE SEEN THEIR FACES.
RIGHT. PITY DRAKE'S PROTOTYPE GOT BROKEN.
YEAH. GUESS I'M REALLY NOT ON HIS GOOD LIST AT THE MOMENT.
HE'LL LIVE.
ANYWAY, ONCE YOU GOT ME TO THE ROOF, IT WAS A LITTLE EASIER.
WELL, APART FROM THIS.
THAT DOING OKAY?
COULD'VE BEEN WORSE. DAD DID A GOOD JOB.
IT'LL HEAL.
GOOD THING IT WASN'T THE OTHER ARM.
WOULDN'T WANT TO RUIN YOUR LATEST TAT.
YEAH. IT CAME OUT OKAY, DIDN'T IT?

RHIANNA PRATCHETT
WRITER

MATTHEW DOW SMITH
PENCILLER

JON BOLERJACK
INKER

JIM CHARALAMPIDIS
COLORIST

ROB LEIGH
LETTERER

NIKO HENRICHON
COVER

KRISTY QUINN
ASST. EDITOR

SCOTT PETERSON
EDITOR